

## How to Backup HEC-ResSim Watersheds

The easiest and most reliable way to make backups or archives of a ResSim watershed (project) is to use a utility program such as **WinZip®** for producing a compressed archive file of one or more files or folders. The following instructions assume you have a recent copy of WinZip installed on your computer and the “Windows Explorer Enhancements” are enabled.

To backup your watershed, open Windows Explorer and traverse to the folder where you stored your watersheds. This folder is the folder named **base** in your watershed location (or model directory) folder.

Once you are in the .../base folder, you should see a folder whose name is the name of the watershed you want to backup.

Right-click on the watershed folder – in the right-click menu, you should see an entry that says **WinZip** which will lead you to a submenu with entries such as **Add to Zip file...**, **Add to My Watershed.zip**, **Add to recently used Zip file**, etc.

The second option, the one with *the name of your watershed.zip* is the easiest one to use (see figure below). This option will compress the whole watershed directory structure and all its files into a single archive and place the zipped file right there in the .../base folder.

As soon as WinZip is done, make a practice of renaming the .zip file by adding the date to its name. Don't leave the original name because the next time you want to back up the watershed, WinZip will essentially ‘overwrite’ the original backup. By adding the date to the name, you can keep a series of backups which will allow you to revert to a previous version of the watershed should the need arise.

